

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 MCE-00 ACDA-12 /061 W  
-----017064 041339Z /64  
R 040902Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4/7//  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0864  
SECDEF WASHDC//ISA(SA)/DSAA//  
DA WASHDC  
CDR MIRCOM REDSTONE ARSENAL//DRSMI-X/DRCPM-KMS//  
CDR USASAC ALEX VA//DRSAC-WA/IR//

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: MASS, KU  
SUBJ: VISIT OF MG RACHMELER TO KUWAIT

REFS: A. CDR DARCOM MSG 171305Z MAR 78  
B. USCINCEUR MSG 141704Z APR 78 (NOTAL)  
C. CDR MIRCOM MSG 192245Z APR 78 (NOTAL)

1. MAJOR GENERAL LOUIS RACHMELER COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY  
MISSILE READINESS COMMAND (MIRCOM) REDSTONE ARSENAL VISITED  
KUWAIT DURING THE PERIOD 28-30 APR 78. KUWAIT VISIT WAS IN  
CONJUNCTION WITH VISITS TO JORDAN AND IRAN TO OBSERVE AND  
DISCUSS THE STATUS OF THE VARIOUS I-HAWK PROGRAMS WITH EMBASSY  
AND HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

2. WHILE IN KUWAIT, MG RACHMELER MET WITH SENIOR OFFICERS OF  
THE KUWAIT ARMED FORCES (KAF), INCLUDING THE CHIEF OF STAFF  
AND THE COMMANDER OF THE AIR FORCE/AIR DEFENSE FORCE. HE WAS  
ACCOMPANIED BY THE AMBASSADOR IN A CALL ON MINISTER OF DEFENSE  
SHAIKH SALEM SABAH APRIL 29. ALSO, MORE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS  
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AND VISITS TO I-HAWK FACILITIES WERE CONDUCTED WITH OTHER OFFICERS  
OF THE KUWAIT AIR DEFENSE FORCE AND U.S. PERSONNEL.

3. DURING THEIR MEETING WITH THE MINISTER, THE LATTER SUGGESTED  
MORE FREQUENT VISITS BY MIRCOM TO ASSESS THE PROGRESS AND  
STATE OF READINESS OF THE KUWAIT I-HAWK BATTERIES WOULD BE  
WELCOME. MG RACHMELER MADE A NUMBER OF POINTS (SUMMARIZED BELOW)

WHICH HE SUBSEQUENTLY INCORPORATED IN A LETTER TO THE CHIEF OF STAFF BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE.

3. SUMMARY OF ABOVE MENTIONED LETTER DATED APRIL 30 IS PROVIDED BELOW:

A. MG RACHMELER WAS PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED WITH THE MOTIVATION AND PROFESSIONALISM DISPLAYED BY THE YOUNG OFFICERS WHO RECENTLY COMPLETED I-HAWK TRAINING. HE RECOMMENDED THAT FULL ADVANTAGE BE TAKEN OF THEIR TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE.

B. HE RECOMMENDED THAT A HIGH PRIORITY BE GIVEN TO FLESHING OUT THE BATTERY UNITS WITH PERSONNEL, IN ADDITION TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN I-HAWK TRAINED, WHO ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE SUCH UNITS SELF-SUFFICIENT; EG, DRIVERS, COOKS, CLERKS ETC.

C. HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE I-HAWK ORGANIZATION COMMAND STRUCTURE BE FINALIZED AND PROMULGATED.

D. HE RECOMMENDED THAT PLANS FOR IN-COUNTRY REPLACEMENT TRAINING BE FINALIZED AND ACTION BE TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE TRAINING PLAN.

E. HE OBSERVED THAT MUCH PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE. THE INITIAL TRAINING PROGRAM HAS BEEN AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS. HE BELIEVES WE CAN SEE OUR OBJECTIVES CLEARLY AND IS CONFIDENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT BY WORKING CLOSELY TOGETHER, SUCCESS CAN BE ACHIEVED.

4. EMBASSY COMMENTS. FROM ALL INDICATIONS THE KUWAITIS WERE HIGHLY APPRECIATIVE OF MG RACHMELER'S VIST AND CONSULTATIONS. THE KUWAITIS ARE THE FIRST TO ADMIT THAT THEIR PROBLEMS CENTER AROUND MANPOWER DEFICIENCIES. WITH THE RECENT IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL CONSCRIPTION, WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THE MANPOWER SITUATION WILL BE GREATLY IMPROVED WITHIN THE NEXT YEAR. IT WILL OBVIOUSLY DEPEND UPON THE SUCCESS OF THIS PROGRAM. MAESTRONE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY SALES, MISSILES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KUWAIT02679  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF MG RACHMELER TO KUWAIT  
**TAGS:** MASS, KU, (RACHMELER, LOUIS)  
**To:** USCINCEUR  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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20 Mar 2014  
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